

31651. CITRUS MEDICA L.**Citron.**

From Villa Rica, Paraguay. Presented by Mr. C. F. Mead, Villa Encarnacion, Paraguay. Received August 18, 1911.

"These citrons were found in a shipment of oranges, etc., from Villa Rica. Whether they are out of the ordinary or not I can not say. Largest citron weighed $4\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, 22 inches in circumference the long way by 13 inches in circumference around the center. When conditions are excellent for growth, fruits up to 12 inches in length are not uncommon. The plant is of scraggly growth, the branches reaching down to the ground if not pruned and sprouting wherever they touch. The peel is used to some extent here for preserves." (Mead.)

31652 and 31653.

From Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa. Presented by Mr. W. J. Newberry, curator, Botanic Gardens. Received August 18, 1911.

Cuttings of the following:

31652. PRUNUS sp.**Plum.**

"*Methley*. This originated near Mr. Methley's homestead, the original tree being a volunteer and growing near a spruit hard by. This seedling, to-day the parent of thousands growing throughout the colony, attracted attention directly it first fruited, owing to the earliness with which the plums ripened; that is, at the same time as our local myrobalan (myrobalan is used throughout as a group name), possibly the *Marianna* and frequently but erroneously called the *Mirabelle*.

"The virtue of the *Methley* is its early ripening. It possesses the good characters of the *Satsuma*, but is deficient in point of size.

"There is every reason to believe that the plum originated from the fertilizing of *Satsuma* flowers by myrobalan pollen, the male element transmitting the smaller size and earliness of ripening and not impairing with myrobalan faults the flavor and texture of the *Satsuma*.

"From inquiries it seems that some blood plums were sent to Mr. Methley from another farm from trees growing in juxtaposition to myrobalans. After this lot of fruit had been partaken of, the stones were thrown out. From one of these pits washed down toward the sluit by the weather it is assumed the original *Methley* grew. As no other adventitious plums came into being, it is rather interesting to speculate upon this one survival, which may, of course, have been the only cross-pollenized seed of the lot.

"The color of the fruit is dark red, ripening to darker red; dots numerous, russet, areolar; bloom, whitish or bluish; flesh, dark red, firm; stone, medium in size, cling; flavor and quality good; season very early; thrives on peach stock." (Extract from C. Fuller in Natal Agricultural Journal, vol. 14, 1910, pp. 279-280.)

31653. MALUS sp.**Apple.**

Wainwright. "A good subtropical apple." (Newberry.)

31654. OXALIS sp.

From Chile. Received through Mr. José D. Husbands, Limavida, Chile, August 14, 1911.

"*Chapeola*."

Tubers.